SUBJECT No. 138.

Placing the Horticultural, Agricultural and Co-operative Inspectors under the control of the Deputy Commissioners.

Messrs. C. Vasudeva Rao and T. B. Malle Cowda, Chiknagalur Taluk.

Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao.—There are all sorts of Inspectors in the District. They work for themselves and are little known to the people, neither do they come very much into contact with the people. They are altogether under the control of their Technical Heads and the Deputy Commissioners have no kind of authority over them. This is very inconvenient. Let the technical officers give them all the technical advice but unless they are placed under the direct disciplinary control of the head of the District, they cannot be useful to the people at all.

Second Member of Council.—You will admit that, under the system advocated, these Inspectors will be under a dual control and such dual control will not tend to any practical and efficient work. Unlike other Departments, these technical departments have no District officers to supervise the work of the Inspectors more efficiently. Until we get more money for increasing the superior staff, we can do nothing.

Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao.—There are cases where these technical officers do not reply to references made to them. The Deputy Commissioners cannot know the movements of the Inspectors and know very little of what they are doing. This would not be the case if the Deputy Commissioners had control over them. If there be any inconvenience, we could at once report to the Deputy Commissioner and he would issue needful orders at once. At present, the Heads of these technical departments are in Bangalore while the Inspectors are in the district, and the supervision which the former has over the latter is very little which leads to the inconvenience, complained of, to the people.

Second Member of Council.—It is not right to say that the Deputy Commissioners do not know anything about the work of the Inspectors. They can know everything and if they do not know, it can only mean that they do not care to know.

Mr. Gopalasamy Iyer.—If the Inspector is made a member of the District Board, then, he will be called upon to show what work he has been doing and he may also be asked to do certain things. The Inspector should be under the orders of the head of the department and there is no particular advantage in his being brought under the control of the Deputy Commissioner, which would only unsettle his work being subjected to dual control.

Mr. M. Subbiah.—I am also of opinion that the present arrangement needs no change.

Mr. T. Narasinga Rao.—There is absolutely no supervision over the work of these Inspectors. In regard to agriculture, it is reported that 1,400 demonstrations have been undertaken in the State. Nobody has verified this statement and the report of an official drawing Rs. 30 is generally accepted by the Department. If, on the other hand, a departmental officer is appointed for each district, he will be able to supervise the work of the Inspectors and the people also will take better advantage of these Inspectors. Something should be done to improve the supervision over the Inspectors.

Mr. Ananthiah.—It is not right to say that the department has not supervised the work of the Agricultural Inspectors. I am personally aware how Dr. Coleman has visited every place in Shimoga where agricultural demonstration farms have been established and how he has worked for their improvement. People have been getting very good help from these demonstrations.

Another Member.—It is just possible that some big people have got the assistance of these Inspectors but generally speaking, common people get nothing out of them. Unless they are brought under the control of the Deputy Commissioners, there is no use of these Inspectors and their appointments may even be abolished.

Another Member.—We know that there is an Agricultural Department in the State and that there are Agricultural Inspectors in the Districts. Beyond this, we know nothing. We have no knowledge of their demonstrations. The Inspectors must be made more useful to the people by teaching them better and more practical and economical methods and they must be able to help the ryots whenever called upon to do so. Unless this is done, there is no use of a big Agricultural Department.

Another Member.—The state of affairs will be improved if the Agricultural Inspector is made a member of the District Board.

Mr. K. T. Seshaiya.—This is being done in Hassan and we are now in a position to scrutinize his diary and see how far he is doing useful work to the people.

Second Member of Council.—Let a proposition come from the District Boards and we shall consider.